

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 06072 070104Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-07 IGA-02 /040 W
-----103777 070132Z /73

R 062031Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2232

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 6072

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, DR
SUBJECT: MANNING OF NEW GROUP FOR U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

1. FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXTS (A) OF
A MESSAGE I RECEIVED FROM THE ACTING USCINCSO AND (B) OF MY REPLY:

(A) BEGIN QUOTE:

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, WE WERE ASKED BY STATE AND DEFENSE
DEPARTMENTS TO PROVIDE PROPOSED JOINT MANPOWER PROGRAMS FOR THE
MAAG BASED ON THE LEVELS CONTAINED IN THE RECENT 1977 SECURITY
ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION.

2. IN MAKING OUR RECOMMENDATION FOR USMAAG DOM REP AND CONSIDERING
THE OVERALL MILITARY SERVICE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATION IN THE
AREA, WE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO REQUEST CONTINUATION OF THE MARINE
CORPS COLONEL POSITION OF CHIEF, USMAAG. THIS BILLET HAS HISTORICALLY
BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE MARINE CORPS AND IS THE ONLY USMC COMMAND
BILLET IN THE LATIN AMERICAN MILGP POSTURE. WHILE WE WHOLE-
HEARTEDLY SUPPORT YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO GRADE EXISTING AUTHORI-
ZATIONS AT THE LOWEST LEVELS COMMENSURATE WITH MISSION ACCOMPLISH-
MENT, WE BELIEVE THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF AN O-6 IN DOM REP IS
ESSENTIAL TO OUR CONTINUED SUCCESS AND RAPPORT WITH SENIOR
MILITARY OFFICIALS.

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3. TO COMPENSATE FOR THE ADDITION OF THIS MILITARY SPACE, WE HAVE
RECOMMENDED DELETION OF THE ARMY EM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND
SUBSTITUTION OF A US CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCE. THIS
ACTION WILL LIMIT THE MAAG TO A TOTAL OF FIVE MILITARY
AUTHORIZATIONS.

4. WARM REGARDS. END QUOTE

(B) BEGIN QUOTE:

1. APPRECIATE YOUR MESSAGE REGARDING FUTURE MANPOWER OF NEW ORGANIZATION TO REPLACE MAAG.

2. WHILE I UNDERSTOOD THE INTER-SERVICE PROBLEMS THAT MAY EXIST AND RESULT IN YOUR VIEW THAT USMC BILLET SHOULD BE RETAINED FOR REASONS YOU DESCRIBE, I AM UNABLE TO CONCUR IN YOUR RECOMMENDATION. THE USMC IS ABLY REPRESENTED HERE BY THE DAO, LTCOL HOUSTON, WHOSE EXTENSION OF TOUR OF DUTY I HAVE APPROVED. IT APPEARS TO ME UNNECESSARY IN A COUNTRY OF THIS SIZE TO HAVE ALL FOUR US MILITARY SERVICES REPRESENTED IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILLETS. NOR DO I AGREE THAT THE "CONTINUED PRESENCE OF AN O-6 IN DOM REP IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR CONTINUED SUCCESS AND RAPPORT WITH SENIOR MILITARY OFFICIALS." OUR EXPERIENCE IS THAT SUCH RAPPORT IS THE FUNCTION OF THE PERSONALITY, LANGUAGE ABILITY AND TECHNICAL COMPETENCE OF THE OFFICER CONCERNED. THE OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE HERE IS THE RAPPORT BETWEEN THE USN REP HERE, A COMMANDER, AND VICE ADMIRAL RIVERA. NOR DO I SEE THE NECESSITY FOR A SEPARATE OFFICER TO BE CHIEF OF THE NEW GROUP. SUCH FULL-TIME RESPONSIBILITIES ARE UNWARRANTED AND COULD BE HANDLED BY THE SENIOR OF THE THREE SERVICE CHIEFS THAT I HAVE AGREED TO.

3. I DO, HOWEVER, SEE MERIT IN YOUR PROPOSAL TO SUBSTITUTE A
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US CIVILIAN FOR AN ENLISTED MAN. THIS MERIT RESIDES IN THE FACT THAT A US CIVILIAN COULD, AS REQUIRED, DEAL WITH DOMINICAN MILITARY OFFICERS, WHEREAS SUCH OFFICERS WOULD NOT DEAL WITH AN ENLISTED MAN.

4. CONSEQUENTLY, MY POSITION IS THAT THE NEW GROUP SHOULD CONSIST OF THREE OFFICER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES, ONE EM, ONE US CIVILIAN AND TWO FSL SECRETARIES. BEST REGARDS. END QUOTE.
HURWITCH

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